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information report

Czechoslovakia COUNTRY

DATE DISTR. SEP 19 1949

SUBJECT

Organization of the SNB Border Guard

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- The headquarters of Utver (Unit) 9600 of the Czechoslovak Security Force (Syaz narodni bezpečnosti-SNB) is located in the barracks at Prahal. Vrsovice. Utvar 9600 is concerned with border control duties and has seven battalions under its command. These are located in Liberec, Litomerice, Kedlovy Vary, Pisek, Plzen, Ceske Budejovice, and Hradec Kralove. Commanding officer of Utvar 9600, and therefore commandant of the CNB in Bohemia, is Colonel Homolka, a veteran gendarmerie officer who sold out to the Communists. His deputy is Lieutenant Colonel Kovar Jiri.
- The general staff of Utvar 9600 consists of 20 officers and approximately 30 2. enlisted men. The adjutant is Major Pipich. The headquarters are divided into three sections: Section I (personnel), under Captain Krike; Section II (communications) under 1st Lieutenant Pechar; Section III (transportation) under lejor Korcina.
- З. In addition to the above-mentioned frontier battalions, Utvar 9600 also controls the ZU, or Zvlastni utvar (Special Unit), which is the personal bodyguard of the President and his cabinet and also serves to protect important foreign visitors. The ZU consists of 8 to 10 officers and approximately 800 men under the command of Major Paducha and is also quartered in Praha-Vršovice. The ZU is an eli-e guard in every sense of the word: It consists only of the most loyal Communists and is fully motorized, well-clothed, and well-armed.
- Utvar 9600 as its own small air force, the headquarters of which are in rague at King George VI Street 69. The force is under the direct control of the Einistry 40 of the Interior and has as its function the observation and reconnaissance of border areas. Units of this air force are stationed at the airfields at Ruzyne (near Prague), Karlovy Vary, Eradec Kralove, Ceské Budejovice, and Klatovy. The aircraft, mainly Fiesoler Itorche and NE 109's, are painted red and bear the symbol "BZ". The force's 40 to 50 squadrons (sic) were until recently under the command of Colonel Vlk, but he has been suspended and his successor is not yet known.
- 5. The normal organization of an SNB frontier battalion:

Commanding Officer: major or lieutenant colonel

2 adjutants l signal officer

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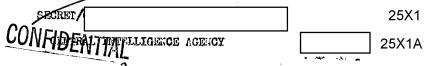
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Approved For Release 2002/08/07 : CIA-RDF 2-00457 R003200490068 Date: 26 May 78 By:



1 orientation officer (political commisser)

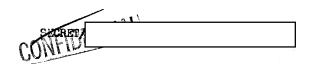
l motor officer

1 personnel relations specialist

1 band leader (sic)

The motor pool generally consists of six staff cars, two trucks, and two busses, all of which are old Wehrmacht vehicles in poor condition. An SNB frontier battalion generally controls from four to eight companies.

- 6. A frontier guard company is generally commended by a junior officer or a first sergeant and consists of approximately 150 men. A squad of 9 to 12 cavalrymen is attached to each company. The motor pool consists of one or two staff cars and one truck.
- 7. There are three to four plateons in each border guard company. Each plateon, which is generally commanded by a sergeant, contains one other non-commissioned cofficer and 35 men. One staff car is allotted to each plateon.
- 8. The border guard battalions are poorly equipped. Half the men carry rifles and half carry Russian machine pistols. In addition, each platoon has two or three old German light machine guns. Every company has three 70-cm. search-lights. The men are inadequately fed and some units tend their oun cattle and pigs. In addition to the ordinary food card, supplementary card T4 is issued to each man, which provides an additional 300 g. fat, 700 g. meat, and 3.4 kg. bread per month.
- 9. The units suffer from an acute shortage of officers, since the career officers were for the most part discharged for political unreliability. Most of the organizational positions calling for officers are filled by noncommissioned officers.



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